

HO - 453
Donaldson School/Trinity
Ilchester
Private

1906

The Donaldson School/Trinity is located on the south side of Ilchester Road, just west of Landing Road, on grounds once occupied by the Donaldson School, an Episcopal Boys' School in 1906, later acquired by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in 1933, who operate Trinity.

Architecturally, this building complex, constructed on a large scale and designed in the Queen Anne Style with overtones of the English Tudar and Medieval half-timbered styles, commands an outstanding site, set into a high ridge of wooded land in the middle of Ilchester.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HO - 453
Savage Quad.
Dist. I

MAGI #1404535702

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Donaldson School

AND/OR COMMON
Trinity

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Ilchester Road

CITY, TOWN
Ilchester

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
6th

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Howard

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Baltimore Province of The Sisters of Notre Dame, Inc. Trinity School Telephone #: (301) 744-1524

STREET & NUMBER
Ilchester Road

CITY, TOWN
Ilchester, Maryland

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Hall of Records

Liber #: 373
Folio #: 718
Tax Map 31, p.232

STREET & NUMBER
Howard County Court House

CITY, TOWN
Ellicott City

STATE
Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE
1978-1979

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN
21 State Circle, Annapolis

STATE
Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Donaldson School/Trinity School is located on the south side of Ilchester Road, just west of Beechwood Drive, on grounds once occupied by the Donaldson School, an Episcopal Boys' School in 1906, and later acquired by Trinity School in 1933, becoming the property of the Sisters of Notre Dame deNamur, who now operate Trinity.

Several buildings cluster around a circle. Most of these buildings were formerly used by Donaldson School. Some have been modified while others, such as "The School House" for the Donaldson School, remain intact. The building is now occupied as an office for Trinity, as well as for classrooms. This building too, has had a large north addition constructed along its north wall, but its south facade remains intact.

The Mansion, which featured a curvilinear front facade, has now become a basis for the convent, serving the school, and is now encased in brick and plaster, while the former Episcopal Chapel is now the Corpus Christi Chapel.

As the oldest building on the property, the convent was chosen for more specific description.

The Julie Billiard Hall, which now serves as the convent for Trinity, encases the original 19th century building of the Donaldson School, known as the Mansion. It faces south among a large building complex, located just east of the central circle. The original curvilinear frame facade has been completely encased in a brick and half timbered plaster facade.

The Queen Anne Style, half timbered building is composed of a central three bay wide, three bay deep, two story high, gable, slate roof (running east-west) section, which holds wide brick east and west chimneys and is flanked by east and west wings.

The west wing is a three bay wide, seven bay deep, two story high, slate intersecting gable roof (running north-south) half timbered building, resting on a stone foundation with wide brick exterior chimney centered on its north wall and a one story high, shed roofed porch running along the north side of its west wall. This section of the three-fold architectural composition was probably partially constructed on the old stone foundation of a previous dwelling, incorporating with - in its half timber exterior wall the west curve of the frame Mansion house's south facade.

On both the south side of its west wall and the centre of its south wall is located a rectangular horizontal cellar window, underlined by a projecting stone sill.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

The remaining central section and east wing are constructed on a brick (laid in flemish bond brick) foundation, also featuring three light basement windows on the south facade.

The east wing is a three bay wide, three bay deep, two story high, intersecting slate gabled roof (running north-south) half timbered section, resting on a brick (laid in flemish bond brick) foundation, with central, east first floor bay window and one story high, shed roofed, screened in porch, resting on a brick foundation, running along its east wall. A one bay wide, one bay deep, one story high, gabled roof (running east-west) half timbered appendage, constructed on a brick (laid in flemish bond brick) foundation, is located on the north side of this section's east wall. Two battenwood doors are inset into the north and south sides of the east wall's brick foundation with a central staircase flanked by an iron railing servicing egress and entry to the screened in porch above.

A first floor, rectangular, sixteen light window is located in the centre of the east wall's bay window, flanked by six-over-six light windows. First floor, rectangular entrances rest in the north and south bays of the east wall. Above rest rectangular, double-hung, twelve-over-twelve light, second floor windows in the north and south bays of the east wall, flanking a central six-six light casement window.

The main entrance is located in the east bay of the central section's south wall. It is a nine light, cross paneled, rectangular entrance door, set into a curved first floor entrance wall, surmounted by a leaden paned transom and flanked by rectangular, double-hung windows, holding twelve-over-twelve lights, underlined by flat wooden sills. A one story high, shed roofed, enclosed porch covers this entrance, featuring a central, intersecting gable (running north-south) half timbered entrance porch. One wide stone step and five wooden steps, flanked by an iron railing, lead to its rectangular, double, screened-in door, flanked by five vertical side lights, a flat pilaster, five more vertical side lights and another pilaster, and surmounted by a tudor arched lintel, across which is placed a horizontal beam inscribed "Julie Billiard Hall".

Fenestration for the building is vertically aligned and proportionally scaled, and to a degree symmetrical with variations so often associated with the Queen Anne Style.

The central section of the south facade holds central bay, rectangular, double-hung windows, holding twelve-over-twelve lights, which are flanked by tripartite windows, composed of a central nine-over-nine light window, flanked by three-over-three light windows. The one element of this composition which creates variety is the entrance located in the east bay of this section.

In the case of the east and west wings, they are of identical height and width on the south facade but vary in window treatment. The east wing holds a central bay twelve-over-twelve light windows,

flanked by nine-over-nine light windows, while the west wing holds nine-over-nine light windows only.

To this building several north and west additions have been made which combine with other building's north and west to form today's Trinity School complex.

The Corpus Christi Chapel, Saint Mary's Hall and Saint Ludwine's Hall were originally the original Chapel, headmaster's house and boys' school respectively for the Donaldson School.

Today they serve Trinity as the Chapel, part of the convent and the office respectively. Some cottages, which were originally constructed west of the central complex for faculty members of Donaldson, have now been connected and form the Lower School for Trinity.

This unusual building complex, constructed on the grand scale and designed in the Queen Anne Style with overtones of the English Tudor and Medieval half timbered styles commands an outstanding site, set into a high ridge of wooded land in the middle of Ilchester, overlooking the Patapsco River.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

Page 1 of 2

HO - 453
Savage Quad.
Dist. I

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> History	

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Donaldson School/Trinity is significant historically and architecturally to Howard County and the State of Maryland.

Architecturally, this building complex, constructed on the grand scale and designed in the Queen Anne Style with overtones of the English Tudor and Medieval half timbered styles, commands an outstanding site, set into a high ridge of wooded land in the Middle of Ilchester, overlooking the Patapsco River. The site of Ilchester, not only attracted the Episcopal Church, which founded Donaldson School in 1906, but it also attracted the Redemptonist Order, who built St. Mary's College and Chapel east of what is now Trinity, and the Girl Scouts of America, who operate Camp Ilchester to the west.

The Donaldson School was located here from 1906-1933, for some twenty-seven years. Here several buildings were constructed around a circle in a Queen Anne Style, with predominantly English Half-Timbered Medieval overtones.

The Boy's School for Donaldson, now St. Ludwine's Hall, occupied as an office for Trinity, features a more formal style, which might be called almost Jacobethan Revival. The informality of the cluster of the buildings lends a certain liveliness and charm to the complex. The circle is not closed but opens up, commanding a view of the large fields sloping southward, with woods to the west.

The convent has already been described in detail. See #7. It encases the original building on the property, the Mansion, and features a brick foundation for its three sectional building, with half timbering above. It lies somewhat east of the circle, connected to Saint Mary's Hall, once occupied by the Head Master at Donaldson.

The building complex, because of its continuity and rythm, caused by the Queen Anne Style taking a common English Medieval Theme, results in a predominantly horizontal feeling, with the tall bell tower offering the strong vertical focal point north east of the circle.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

his rounded brick tower is outstanding for its brick work, replacing a more rustic tower. It is connected to the present convent by a cloister, constructed shortly after Donaldson was acquired by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namurs.

The importance of this architectural complex is that it exemplifies a great deal of individuality exhibited in the separate and unique character of each of the buildings, while blending and uniting in a common, loosely constructed theme.

Circles are circular but not rigidly so. They open up, while buildings are randomly spaced, attempting to break rigid form.

Historically, the complex is important both religiously and educationally. Traditionally education has been coupled with religious activity, and numerous schools founded by various churches.

Evidently a Miss Donaldson of Calvary Episcopal Church in Baltimore left an endowment for an Episcopal School, which began in Baltimore and moved to Ilchester in 1906. In 1933 they sold the property to the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. This order was founded in 1804 in Amiens, France by a young peasant girl, Julie Brilliart, who had been miraculously healed. The co-foundress of the Order was the Countess Francois Blain de Bourdon. In 1969 Julie Brilliart was canonized.

The Order moved to Namur, Belgium, sending out groups to America in 1840, after being invited by a visiting American Bishop from Ohio. Later the Order went to Oregon and today it is on every Continent except Australia. The Order does missionary work, but is mainly a teaching Order of the Roman Catholic Church.

Trinity has been operated by this Order for almost fifty years, at one time having the only Catholic High School in Howard County. It is now a co-educational elementary school, kindergarten through eighth grade.

Architecturally and historically significant, The Donaldson School/Trinity should be placed on the National Register of Historic Places, The State Critical Areas Program and any local landmark ordinance which the citizens of Howard County might initiate, should its owners so desire.

HO - 453
Relay Quad.
Dist. 1

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Donaldson School, Ilchester, Maryland
A handbook published by The Donaldson School, 1931-32.

Interview with Sister Catherine Phelps, Principal of Trinity, Sr. Margaret
Therese (301) 744-1524

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber _____ Folio _____

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Howard

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

3450 Court House Drive

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

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11A.
147

DEPT. OF FORESTS

Attachment 1
HO - 453
The Donaldson School/Trinity
Tax Map 31

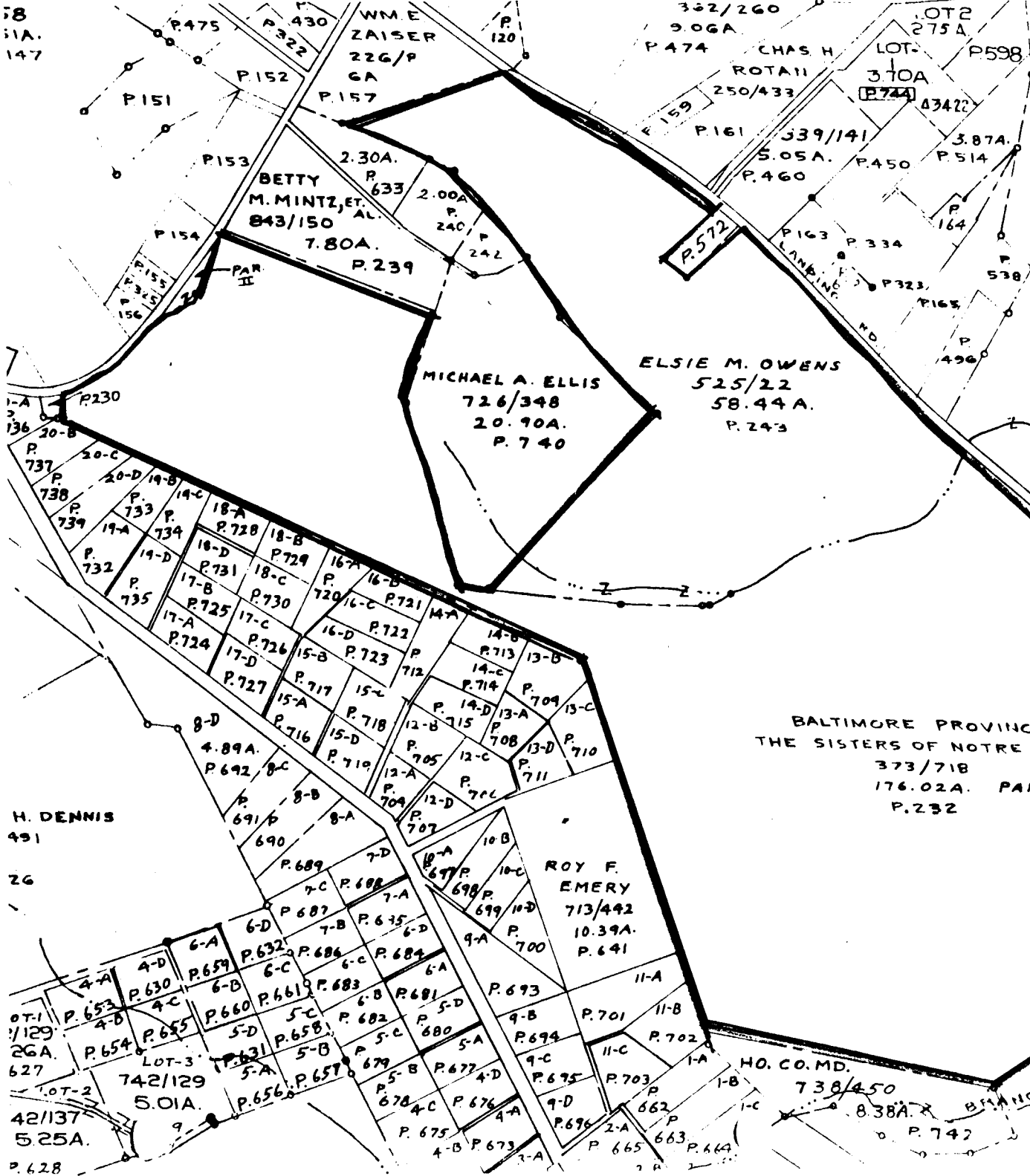
STATE OF MD.
DEPT. OF NATURAL
RESOURCES
653/845
83.72 A
P.429

BALTIMORE PROVINCE OF
THE SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME, INC.
373/718
176.02A. PAR. I & II
P.232

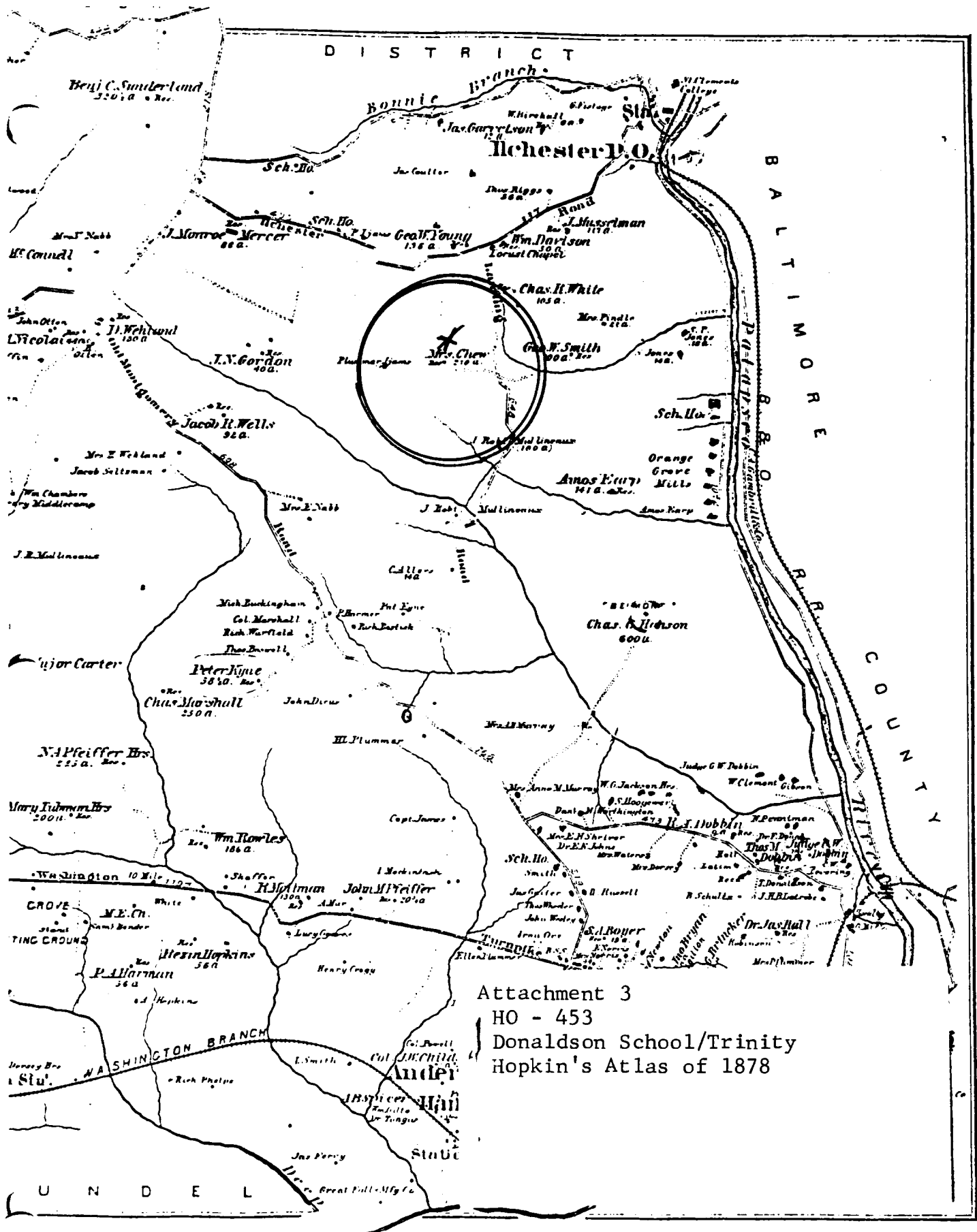
H. DENNIS
491

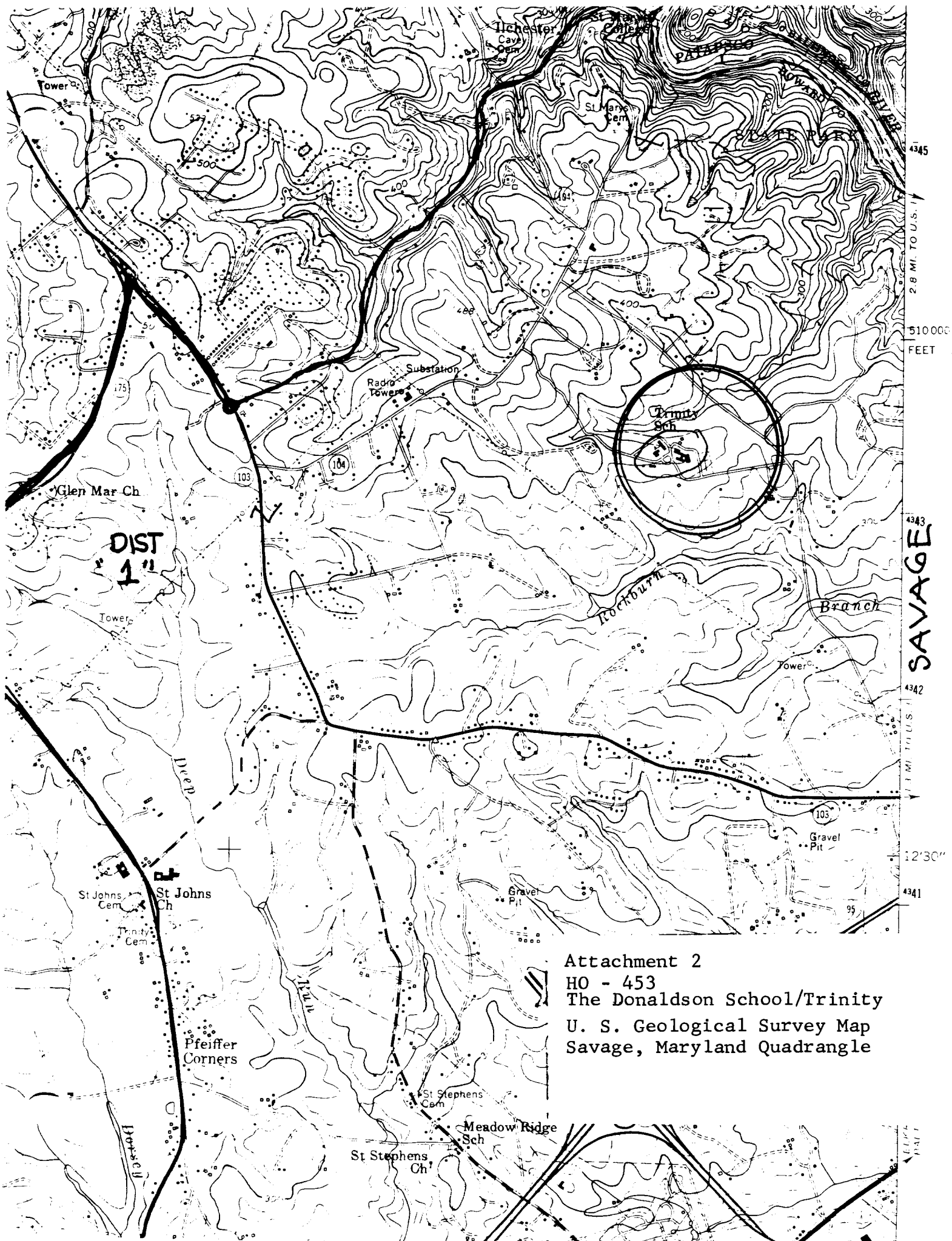
26

OT-1
1/129
26A.
627
LOT-2
42/137
525A.
P.628



Attachment 4
HO - 453
Donaldson School/Trinity
1860 Martennet Map







HO-453

DONALDSON SCHOOL / TRINITY

(SOUTH)

NOV '79

RECEIVED
PLANNED
HISTORICAL SURVEY, AICP